

Abstract

Computer software which is configured to create a printer label format based on a printed label that has been scanned. Specifically, the software provides that an existing label is scanned, and then the software converts the scan into a label format through optical character recognition (OCR). The software is configured such that text on the label is recognized as text, graphics are recognized as graphics, etc. and anything on the label which is not specifically recognized by the software is characterized as being a graphic. Preferably, barcodes are recognized as barcodes, and not just as graphics. Subsequently, a user is prompted, via a visual display, to confirm that the scanned objects have been correctly characterized and the user can change any of the characterizations made by the software.

Additionally, the user can link any object to a variable field, and can add embedded printer-specific non-printing control codes to the label format.

Once a label format has been created, the label format can be saved and printed at any time, using any supported printer. A method of creating a printer label format by scanning a printed label is also provided, as well as OCR software which is configured to identify barcodes as being barcodes and not just as graphics.